

SPONSOR INFORMATION PACKET

Congratulations on having been asked to be a Confirmation Sponsor. One of the wonderful privileges of being a practicing Catholic is the opportunity to represent the Catholic Church at the Sacrament of Confirmation.

As a Confirmation sponsor, your role is to encourage the faith of your candidate, be an “example” to your Confirmation candidate and to reflect with the candidate on the meaning of a life of Catholic discipleship.

Please complete and return pages 3 and 4 of this document and the “Certificate to Serve as a Sponsor” by February 15 to:

St. Madeleine Sophie Roman Catholic Church
Religious Ed Department
17155 NW US Highway 441
High Springs, FL 32643

Or fax to Attention Religious Ed Department 386-454-4985

Or email to reoffice@stmadeleinesfuture.org.

My candidate's name is: _____

Name of parish and city where Confirmation is to take place:

St. Madeleine Sophie Roman Catholic Church
17155 NW US Highway 441
High Springs, FL 32643

- ❖ Above all, pray for the person you are serving as a sponsor.
- ❖ Exchange telephone numbers and email addresses with the person.
- ❖ Extend an invitation to attend Mass or other parish activities/ministries with you.
- ❖ Extend an invitation to attend a liturgical event with you such as a wedding, funeral, reconciliation service etc. Allow time to discuss the experience before or after.
- ❖ Share good Catholic resources (books, magazines, tapes) or go to a Catholic bookstore together to browse.
- ❖ Suggest having a casual lunch or dessert together sometime.
- ❖ Mark Feast Days and Holy Days in some way (card, note, phone call, etc.).
- ❖ Prior to receiving Confirmation, the person you are serving will be asked to participate in the tradition of choosing a patron saint's name from among the many saints of the Bible and the Church's history. You can assist in this process in many ways, especially by praying for guidance, discussing your favorite saints, and helping the person you are serving think about how to decide and to look for resources on saints.
- ❖ Give an appropriate gift at the time of the person's Confirmation (patron saint medal, book on the chosen patron saint, rosary, subscription to a good Catholic periodical)
- ❖ Remember the anniversary of the person's Confirmation (card, note, phone call, etc.)
- ❖ Be creative!

St. John Chrysostom, 4th Century Bishop of Constantinople

"They should not consider that what they are doing is a routine action. Rather, they should be fully aware that they will share the credit if they guide their charges to the path of virtue by their advice, but if they are negligent, then grave condemnation will fall upon them. For this reason it is the custom to call them 'spiritual fathers' in order that they may learn from their office the affection they owe to their charges in giving them spiritual instruction. For if it is a noble thing to lead those who are in no way connected with us to desire virtue, we have a much greater duty to fulfill this obligation to one whom we have received to the position of spiritual son. To sum up, negligence brings no small danger to those of you who are acting as sponsors."

The Heart of this Ministry of Service

"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us" (1 Thessalonians 2:8)

SPONSOR INFORMATION
(please complete and return this form promptly)

Sponsor's Name (first and last): _____
(Please print clearly)

_____ *Sponsor please initial after reading the following paragraph:*

I understand that as a sponsor I am to live a life in harmony with the nature of this responsibility, meaning, for example, that I regularly attend Mass, I receive the Eucharist regularly, I make use of the sacrament of Reconciliation, and I seek to the best of my understanding of my Catholic faith to be faithful to the teachings of the Church. I attest that I have received the sacrament of Confirmation and that I am at least 16 years old. I also understand that being a sponsor is a commitment of time. I further understand that being chosen as a sponsor is a lifetime commitment to be, as I am able, a faithful witness of the Catholic way of life to the individual I am called to serve. If I am not a member of the same parish as the person who I am serving, then **I will have my pastor complete a "Certificate to Serve as a Sponsor"**, attesting to the fact that I attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, follow the precepts of the Church, and possess no impediments for serving as a sponsor.

CONTACT INFORMATION (Please print)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Maiden Name if applicable _____

Full Mailing Address: _____

Phone:(Daytime) _____ (evening/weekend) _____

Cell/Mobile Phone: _____ Occupation: _____

Email:(home) _____

Alternate e-mail: _____

Parish where you are currently registered: _____

Full mailing address: _____

Pastor's Name: _____ Phone: _____

I am active in the Catholic Church, regularly attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation, and strive to live my faith.

Please print your name

Signature

Date: _____

For Office use:

Sponsor for: _____ Date: _____

Received "Sponsor Information Form" by: _____

If from another parish, "Certificate to Serve as a Sponsor" received by: _____

Notes: _____
